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No. 7

A. V. Payne

No 201 Walnut

Mrs M. Phair

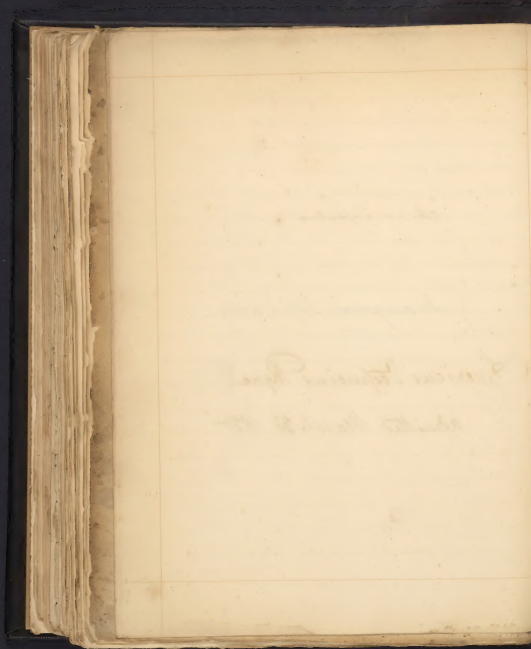
1808 Oct. 25th

Chelva Infantum

Inaugural Dissertation.

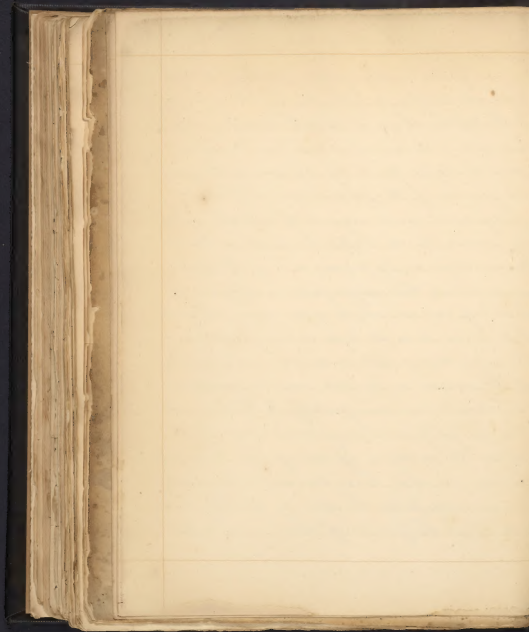
Americus Vespucius Payne

admitted March 30. 1820



Introduction.

After a variety of considerations relative to the choice of a subject for my Inaugural Dissertation, I have at length selected one out of a vast many which has been handled hitherto, probably, by some of the greatest genius of the present age with that judgment, and ingenuity, which so justly pertain to its importance. And whilst I am strenuously persuaded of the influence which this impression is capable of exerting, over one whose experience is limited like mine, I am at once entirely deterred from entering into such an investigation of the disease as practice, and repeated observation, alone, can justify. So, to surmount this mighty embarrassment will be, to follow the example of many who have preceded me, that have drawn conclusions principally from the opinion of others and not from the fruits of their own expe

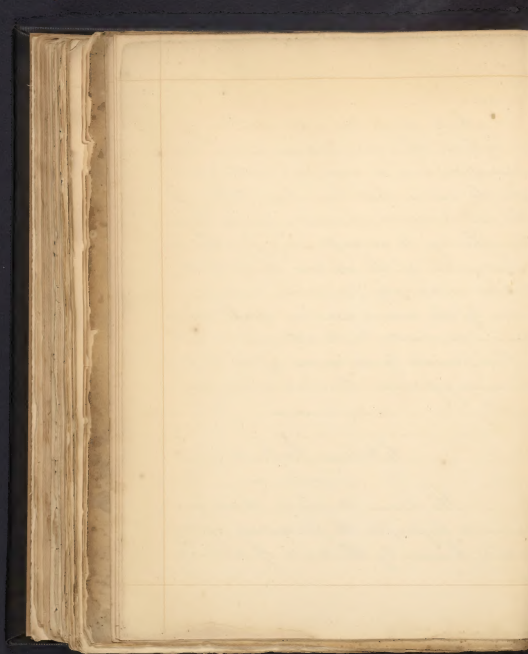


science.

And such too is the authority on which these conclusions are to be founded; and so wide and extensive are the views that have been taken of the subject in all its various parts, that, I might say, to attempt any further investigation of the disease, than that which is already presented to my notice by the several authors that I have consulted, would be, to attempt a task which, I could by no means effect, at least, from my present limited experience.

Cholera Infantum.

The disease to which I have concluded to prefix the preceding apology is that known by the name of Cholera



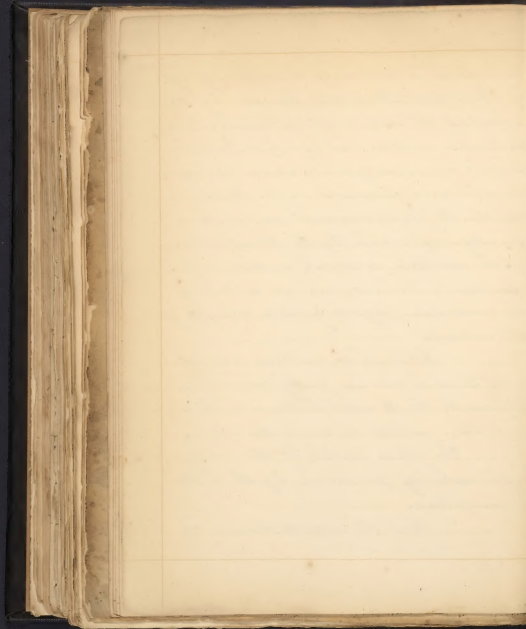
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Infantum, or "vomiting and purging
of Children". It is also known by the
name of the disease of "the season". These
particular appellations by which ^{the} disease
is most commonly designated arise from
its regular appearance in the summer
months. Its frequency, and danger, are
greatly influenced by the temperature
of the weather, so much so, that in pro-
portion to its heat, are we to expect
the increased frequency, and danger of
the disease.

Cholera Infantum would
seem to be a disease pretty much con-
fined to the United States, or it has
not been much noticed elsewhere.

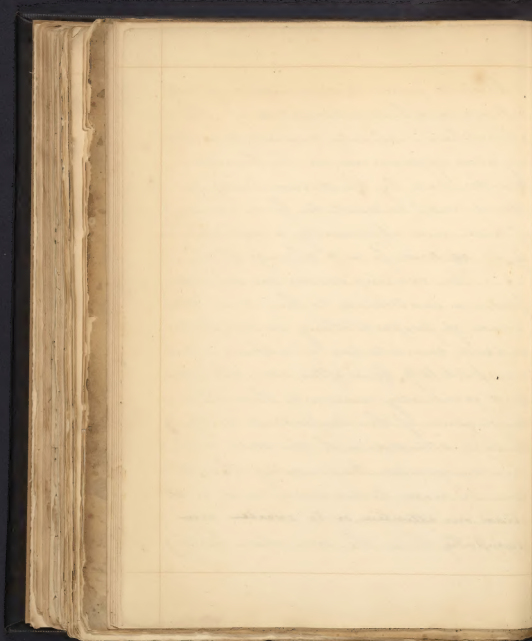
The predisposition of this disease
is the ability produced by the heats
atmosphere.

That the remote cause of



4
of Cholera seems to originate or greatly depend on a heated condition of the atmosphere is clearly evinced from its regular appearance in the Summer months, and by the disease being rendered more intractable from an excess of heat, and apparently, a mitigation of its violence from a change of air.

The exciting causes are improper food, an inattention to the strict observance of proper clothing suited to the delicate constitution of a Child whose susceptibility is so often wrought upon, and eventually consumed through a negligence of this important duty, by diseases attended with the most distressing consequences. And among these, there can be none better calculated to attract our attention, or to excite our sympathy than the one whose history



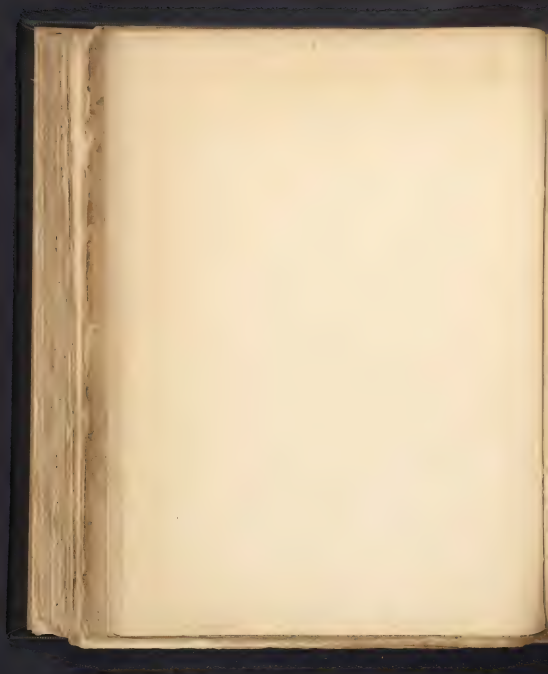
I am very anxious to write.

During the winter
as our attention was directed
from many grounds to visit
the new variety of other winter.

I am the more anxious to know
whether the heart seems to be affected in
this disease, or whether it is the
impression that the brain has been
some mental derangement. It is after
long, heretofore, it seems have presented
but no such experience. But, that
the seat of the disease was not found
entirely in the contents of the brain.

I understand that though from some
more recent investigations into this fact
there has been an exception, and
that from examining the brain of the
diseased who have fallen victims to this
disease certain cases of inflammation

* These investigations were made a the
As we have last year by one of the attending



have been discovered.

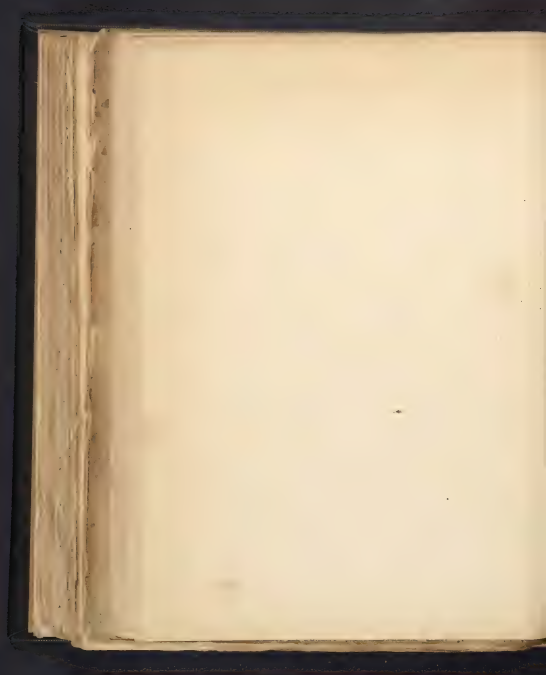
Being unable to infer, from actual observation to determine the accuracy of the one, or the other of these two very ^{positive} statements, I am, nevertheless, that from the few cases of cholera infantum which I have seen, I should most unquestionably be led to a belief that the Ventricle participates very greatly in the disease. But, that the principal seat of the disease, and the most prominent features of its mortality are to be met ^{with} in the contents of the abdomen, dissections have fully determined.

The Throat is represented as clear of disease. The Alimentary Canal and parts, except that part of it made up by the small intestines, undergoes the effects of inflammation the Mucous



membrane immediately to be affected
on the surface of this a number of
dived. spots are observable. The stom-
ach shows the same marks. The per-
itoneal Coat is, also, sometimes inflamed.
There is also considerable hepatic
enlargement, the liver is uniformly
enlarged, it is also often indurated,
granular, fatty, and brittle. The Gall
bladder is distended with bile. Of the
Spleen, and Pancreas but little has
been said.

From the history of the case,
Cholera Infantum would appear very
nearly allied to the intestinal com-
plaints which men in more advanced
life. There thus is the case, and that the
affection of the liver is a subsequent
complaint occurring through sym-
pathy with the Stomach, is evident.



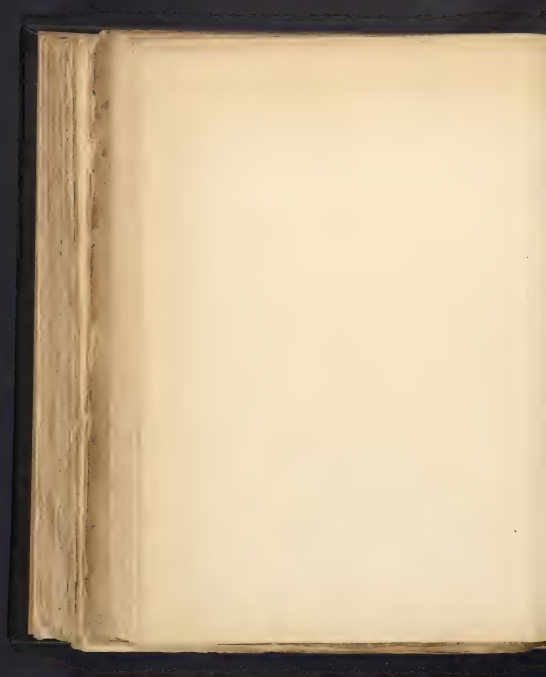
by demonstration by the causes, symp-
toms and phenomena. As we see in
dyspepsia, which have been already
noticed, as well as the treatment which
I am now to detail.

As I believe the function
usually shows itself in a disor-
der of the alimentary canal, we are
warranted to doubt the propriety of acting
along the stomach, and in fact in
the first instance. But the manner
in which this is to be done is somewhat
doubtful and undetermined among
most practitioners.

It is the general cus-
tom to administer Purgatives at the
commencement of the disease and those
of the mild kind, such as the Rham Emulsi.

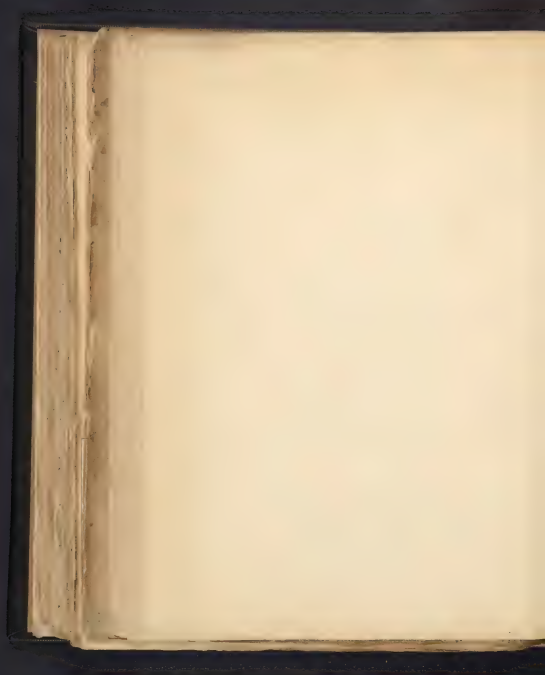
Most generally what the disease con-
sists of is only of its more violent symp-

* Let not modest readers be
deceived.



lowers, the treatment will succeed.
But when the disease becomes more
intractable, and accompanied by great
irritability of the Stomach, so as utterly
to preclude in many instances the
possibility of retaining peptic live med-
icines, it then becomes an imperative
duty to allay this irritability by
the usual means employed for that
purpose, such as the Warm Bath, to
mentations to the abdomen; Rucedos
Cloves quitted in Clannet, and a ring
out of hot Birds, or hands applied to
the Stomach and Loins, and more
particularly by the anodyne injec-
tions.

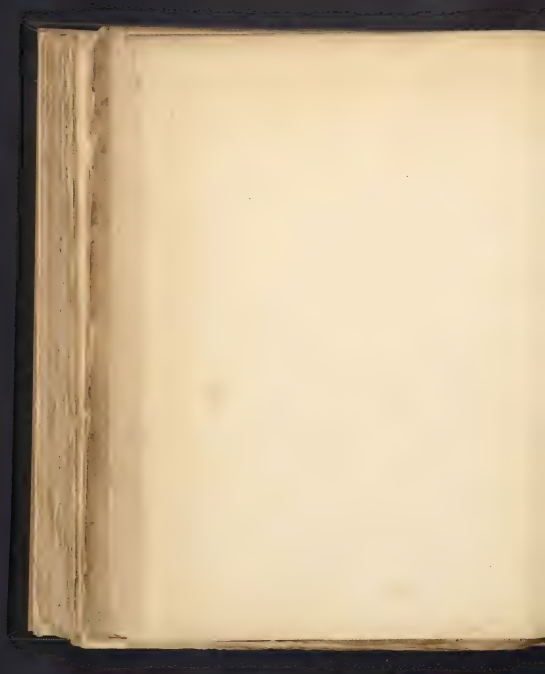
After having raised the morbid
nature of this mighty Sovereign of the
Internal Economy. Then, the restitutions
may be executed by the exhibition of



perplexed, and arising out of an
approach to one but a subtle to this
purpose seems to be a transition from
some more opium, the advantages of
which are there for its impurities and
smallness of dose it may be easily
administered, moreover it excites
very thoroughly, and at the same time
relates irritation and spasm.

When well used, though
the treatment may be adapted to the
more forcible and mature forms of
the disease, it will not do out of time
repeated application. Often there is much
reboiled gastric distaste, these things
are sometimes are mixed together, and
in addition to this there is considerable
heat, ^{and} a quick and irritable pulse.
In these are more frequent with Spasms
-an he, nocturnal, more or less of

2. the form of the vomiting kind.



attention.

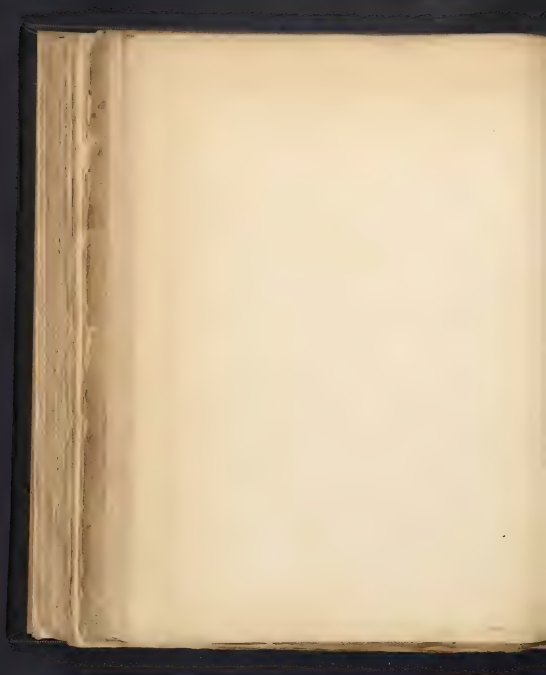
In Cholera Asiatica like other diseases of the bowels where inflammation is present it is imperative to do more, and has certainly a more undoubted claim to a priority of attention in the management of the particular stage of the disease than any other mode of treatment. In this, as in some other affections of the alimentary canal, the pulse is a pulse which would seem to discourage the use of the lancet, but the phenomena of distention and other symptoms evidently indicate the propriety of bleeding. It will be well, though, to bear in mind that here, as in every other case of a like nature, it should be directed with a great ^{and} caution, and accurate discrimination.



After the stomach is relieved, as there is
no reason why more should be administered
purges, one of the best Colicums is the
purgative, either given alone, or in combina-
tion with Opium. But when from pur-
gation or from any peculiarities of the
can Colicums is most impeded, a solution
of Epsom salts may be substituted, and
with a great deal of propriety, for
constancy, when the stomach is in an
irritable condition.

The Stomach and
bowels having been sufficiently evac-
uated, purgatives should be discon-
tinued, unless there should be a great
accumulation of bile or other fluids.

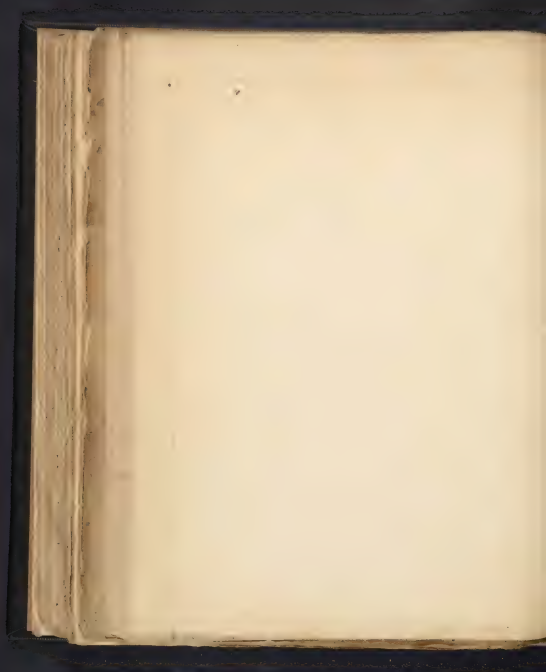
Much of the fatality of this dis-
ease says Professor Chapman "is to be
ascribed to constancy, and especially pur-
ging". And indeed, what effect can



10
now move on the tender and delicate
frame of an infant enough to enfeeble
and debilitate it.

After the bowels have
been completely evacuated, a continu-
tion of Calomel, opium, and Spina-
laria may be exhibited in propor-
tions suited to the circumstances of
the case. When the pain is very pe-
tulant and violent, or where the con-
vulsions are very great, moderate in-
jections should be resorted to.

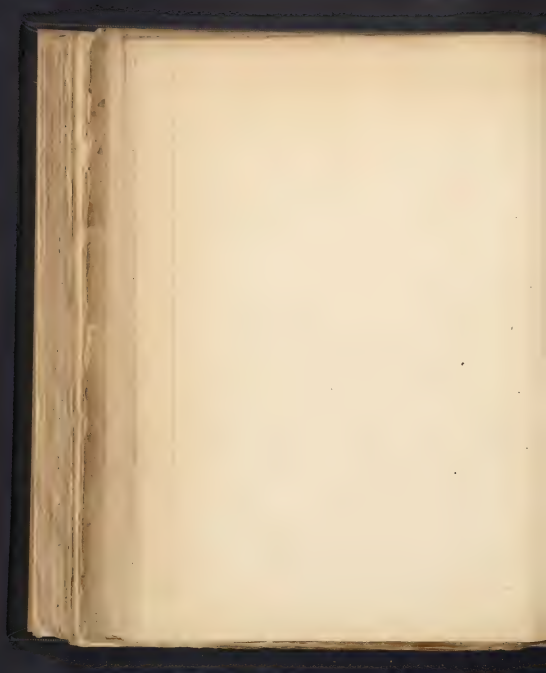
These means will calm
irritation and relieve the symptoms.
Besides these remedies there are others
not greatly inferior in importance,
nor less essential to the proper treat-
ment of the disease. The first of these
is opium, and its administration is, the Warm
Bath which, by its immediate and



time in the skin is not only main-
tainable by increasing perspiration, but
also, by the ir. tension which it has
on the system generally. There is in
this disease great irregularity of tem-
perature. The warm bath equalises this
irregular distribution of heat, gives
a glow to the surface, and induces re-
laxation of the stomach. Thus its effects
are cruescent, and it, therefore, requires
to be repeated daily, and some times
twice a day.

Escharotomies to the same
and Blisters are also a very impor-
tant purpose. They may be applied
either to the breast, to the abdomen,
or to the extremities in circumstances
may seem to indicate.

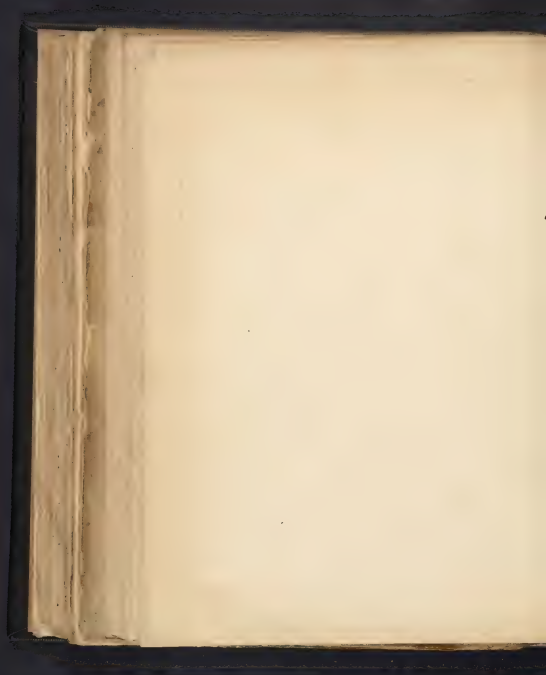
By a proper atten-
tion to the progress of the disease, and



and in due regard to the proper ap-
plication of this treatment, after
a few days, or weeks the disease usu-
ally terminates in a Diarrhoea, some-
times attended with tormina and
tenesmus; very often the Stomach is
at the same time much disordered.

In restraining the discharge from
the bowels the Astringents, and in a
few preparations are useful. The
tormina and tenesmus may be
best managed by the anodyne re-
sins. To improve the acidity of the Stom-
ach occurring at this time a con-
tinuation of Castor Oil, the white of
Eggs, Sugar, Lime water and Laud-
num, intimately united is very
much recommended. This will re-
main on the Stomach where the
Oil alone would not.

* The disease sometimes terminates
in a few days and twenty hours.



The remedies usually employed in the Discharge of Adults in for the most part applicable to that which is incident to Cholera Infantum in Children. But I shall mention some which are more particularly adapted to the latter case.

Among the Mineral-
Drugs Alum may be consider-
ed as claiming the principal at-
tention in this disease, combined
with Opium in the proportion of
℞. ℥. iii of the former to ʒ. ss of the
latter it may be given every two
or three hours *pro re nata*.

The rectis *Alumini*
has lately been much employed
in this disease, but having a tendency
to increase or bring on tormina, ~~and~~
and tenesmus it has been objected to.

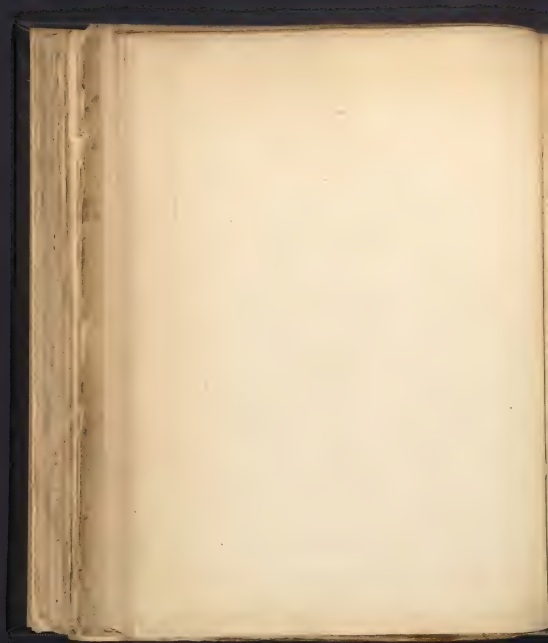


Chalk, Lime, and infusion of Gall,
and Sassafras are useful either
alone or in combination.

Columbo in infusion
or powder has acquired a deserved
reputation in this disease.

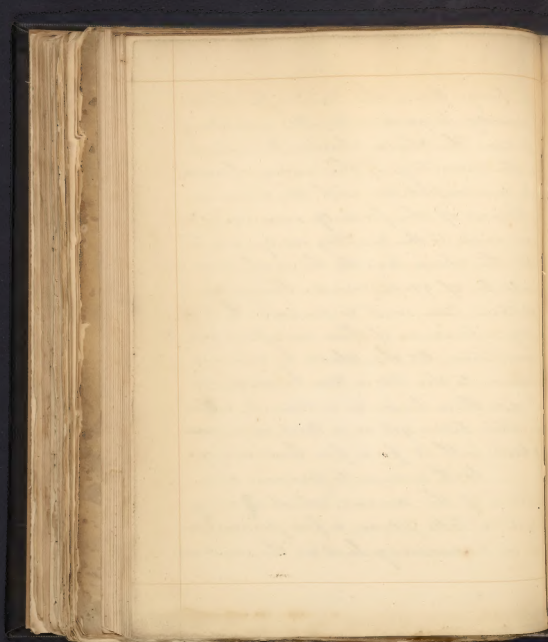
Infused in infu-
sion mentioned by Dr. Chapman
as being a favourite remedy with
Dr. Physick is often of great service.
But the favourite remedy of Dr. Chap-
man is an infusion of the root of
the Strawberry, "To check the moderate
excretions which commonly at-
tend the protracted cases of this
disease, says he, no remedy has ever
done so much good in my hands."

But when the disease origin-
ates as it usually does, as a consequence
of the crowded and heated atmosphere



of large cities the most effectual remedy, beyond a doubt, is a change of air. The Child should be carried to the Country. If this advice should be incompatible with the circumstances of the family, even occasional visits to the Country daily, so as to let the Child breathe the fresh air, will be of great avail. Should an obstacle still exist to prevent the happy influence of these necessary admonitions, let the Child be carried down to the River Banks daily for two, or three hours at a time. Or what is still better get in a Boat, and row about with it for a few hours daily.

With a view to prevent a return of the disease, which is very apt to take place, a few precautions will be necessary. Such as the avoidance



of early weaning, at least, within the year. The daily use of the Cold Bath, both with a view to its tonic, as well as to its cleansing properties.

When the Cold Bath cannot be used, the Warm Bath may be substituted in its place. Flannel, and Woollen Stockings should be worn.

As regards diet, the eating of unripe fruits, more particularly, should be avoided.

Milk with some of the farinaceous articles form a proper diet.

As dentition, if not a cause of this disease is well executed to aggravate it when it does exist, the gums should be examined frequently, and if the teeth should appear to be retarded by them, they should be freely lanced.

